

Memorandum on Assignment of Certain Reporting Functions of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007

June 12, 2007

Memorandum for the Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, and the Director of National Intelligence

Subject: Assignment of Certain Reporting Functions of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I hereby assign to the Secretary of State the functions of the President under sections 1211(b), 1213(b), and 1226(c) of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (Public Law 109–364).

In the performance of such functions, the Secretary of State should coordinate with the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence, and the heads of other departments and agencies, as appropriate.

The Secretary of State is authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 13.

Satellite Remarks to the Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting

June 13, 2007

Thank you all very much. Thanks for the warm welcome, Frank, and thanks for your kind introduction. I really appreciate you giving me a chance to speak to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, right there in my home State of Texas. I appreciate the fact that messengers from all over the Nation have gathered in San Antonio this week. You could have chosen a cooler time of the year to visit, but I'm sure you'll still experience our famous Texas hospitality.

I appreciate the fact that you're meeting to join in prayer and to seek a common direction for the ministry of Southern Baptist churches. I thank you for your Christian witness; I thank you for your defense of religious liberty; and I appreciate your many good works that make our Nation a stronger and more hopeful place. See, every day Southern Baptists are giving back to their communities and ministering to those in need. And you made our Nation stronger as a result.

You have contributed millions of dollars to fight world hunger and logged countless hours in disaster relief and rebuilding. You've provided training to lift people out of poverty and dependency, and you've spread the Gospel. You've loved your neighbors as yourselves. In other words, you've made a great contribution to our country. And I appreciate that.

I also appreciate the fact that Southern Baptists are supporting our brave men and women in uniform and their families. I know you pray for their safety as they defend our people and extend the hope of freedom to the oppressed across the globe. I appreciate the fact you've sent care packages and tend to the spiritual needs as military chaplains or kneel in prayer. I thank you as you support those who volunteer to serve our Nation.

Just like our troops, you have the gratitude of the Commander in Chief as we do the hard work necessary to defend our country and, at the same time, lay the foundation of peace.

I appreciate the fact that Southern Baptists understand the importance of fair-minded and impartial judges to our democracy. I was proud to nominate John Roberts and Sam Alito to the Supreme Court. And I will continue to nominate good judges who will interpret the law and not legislate from the bench.

Southern Baptists have committed to building a culture of life, and my administration shares that great goal. Since taking office, I've signed the Born Alive Infants Protection Act and the Unborn Victims of Violence Act, also known as Lacy and Connor's Law. I've refused to fund programs overseas that promote or perform abortions. I used my first veto on a bill that would have compelled American taxpayers to support the deliberate destruction of human embryos. And